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REPORT  
OF THE  
SELECTMEN  
AND  
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
TOWN OF GRANTHAM,  
FOR THE  
YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1862.

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LEBANON:  
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1862.

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# SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

## DISBURSEMENTS.

### PAID FOR THE SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

Dis. No. 1.	Joseph H. Goss,	\$121.23
" " 2.	Samuel G. Colby,	45.83
" " 3.	Oliver B. Buswell,	72.28
" " 4.	George C. Davis,	30.00
" " 5.	Nathaniel Fisher,	36.55
" " 6.	James Sargent,	46.58
" " 7.	Joab Walker,	33.46
" " 8.	Horace F. Goss,	44.55
	Samuel Emerson, his proportion,	5.48
	Levi Russell, his proportion,	1.67
		<hr/> \$437.63

Paid State Tax,	\$113.40
“ County Tax,	229.07
	<hr/> \$342.47

Paid for support of County paupers,	\$588.67
" Town of Canterbury, for support of Lydia Marsh,	18.14
" for support of Melinda Dunbar,	39.00
" " H. Flanders' Family,	83.36
" for doctoring and burial of Joseph Newell,	12.00
" for support of I. Drake,	24.21
" Reuben Winter for support of ——— Fisher,	5.00
" H. Ford's bill for support of H. Flanders' family, 1860,	9.28
" for support of Judith Eastman,	20.00
" R. Winter, rent on Drake place,	18.00
" R. Clough, support of A. W. Flanders,	20.00
" Town of Hanover, small pox case,	59.00
" For support of W. Corlis,	12.88
" John Smith, on note,	300.00
" Reuben Winter, going to Claremont,	2.50
" H. A. Bellows, counsel fees,	43.08
" P. S. Adams, support of Teachers' Institute,	6.40
" B. F. Goss, mistake in Auditor's Report for 1861,	.50
" W. Barton, medical service, 1861,	4.75
" O. B. Buswell, taking affidavit,	1.00
" A. Hall, interest on note,	30.76
" Expense sealing Weights and Measures,	4.71
" D. Merrill and J. Goss, support of watering troughs,	6.00



Paid T. G. Powers, T. Kinsley and M. Purnmort, damage in consequence of unskilful management on highway in this town,	22.00
" O. B. Tuswell, building bridge,	21.95
" S. Littlefield, building bridge and straightening highway,	30.00
" Sundry bills for plank and labor on highway,	51.77
" For breaking roads 1860—'61,	15.62
" Non resident tax worked,	9.40
" Abatement of taxes for 1858,	2.37
" do do do 1860,	4.56
" Overtaxed and abatements, 1861,	38.06
" C. C. Thornton, for G. H. Thornton,	2.06
" E. Sargent, expense to Dublin,	5.00
" J. Clark, expense to Concord,	3.00
" J. Clark, expense to Gilmanton,	3.50
	—\$1520.96

## PAID FOR BREAKING ROADS 1861—'62.

District No. 1, not returned,	
" " 2	\$76.20
" " 3	16.26
" " 4	14.74
" " 5	14.18
" " — James Barton, surveyor,	16.20
" " 7	19.82
" " 8	37.61
" " 9	19.86
" " 10	25.12
" " 11	20.13
" " — S. B. Hastings, surveyor,	21.76
" " 13	12.67
" " 14	8.45
" " 15	12.00
" " 16	10.88
	—\$255.88
Paid bounty to ten N. H. volunteers,	\$100.00
" S. M. Thornton, bounty and services in 1st Regiment N. H. Volunteers,	33.00
" For perambulating town lines,	8.50
" For stationery, blanks, &c.,	5.00
	—\$146.50
Paid for relief of families of volunteers in this town up to March 10, 1862.	\$144.41
" For sundries,	6.70
" L. F. Dodge, services as collector,	14.00
" J. N. Brown, services Town Clerk,	8.00
" J. W. Osborne, services Sup. School Committee,	8.50
" H. L. Burpee, do do do do	6.00
" John Clark, services Selectman,	35.00
" Edwin Sargent, services Selectman,	20.00
" Seth Littlefield, Jr., services Selectman,	15.00
	—\$113.20

# RECEIPTS.

Taxes assessed in 1861,	\$1728.70
Received of Treasurer 1860,	329.19
“ Rent on leases, 1860,	62.33
“ “ “ 1861,	48.50
“ of town of Hopkinton,	14.00
“ of town of Alexandria,	37.43
“ of town of Plainfield,	3.75
“ Literary Fund,	57.00
“ Railroad money,	17.00
“ of Collector, 1858,	3.63
“ “ 1859,	34.62
“ of County,	532.32
“ of Collector, 1860,	22.28
	<hr/> \$2890.75

## AVAILABILITIES OF THE TOWN.

Due on Leases,	\$35.81
“ from the town of Alexandria,	12.88
“ on Sanborn Brown note,	22.00
“ from Collector, 1859,	63.38
“ from County,	53.17
“ on Adolphus Hall's note,	4.16
“ on Railroad tax,	20.00
“ from State for relief of families of volunteers,	144.41
	<hr/> \$355.81

Total Expenditures,	\$2961.05
Total Receipts,	2890.75

Balance against the Town,	\$70.30
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## LIABILITIES OF THE TOWN.

The town owe John Smith, note,	\$425.00
“ “ “ Amasa Hall,	500.00
“ “ “ J. Clarke, note,	70.30
	<hr/> \$995.30
Total availabilities,	355.81

Leaving the town in debt,	\$639.49
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Which is respectfully submitted by

JOHN CLARK,	} <i>Selectmen</i>
EDWIN SARGENT,	
SETH LITTLEFIELD, Jr.	

*of*  
*Grantham.*

Town debt, 1861, \$624.93

## SCHOOL REPORT.

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Your Committee, in presenting the customary Annual Report, offer their congratulations in regard to the general success of our schools. Yet there are imperfections existing in the schools, many of which are traceable directly to the negligence of those who should be most interested in educational matters,—*the parents of the scholars.*

It is frequently the case, that instead of the earnest co-operation of parents and teachers, they practically exert directly opposing influences. Many a teacher has succeeded in his efforts to control a score of mischief-loving children who has found it utterly impossible to "*manage* the two score of well-meaning but sadly mistaken parents."

Schools are not visited by parents as they should be. Many, who, through gross misrepresentations, conceive a strong prejudice against a Teacher, would be happily disappointed *in seeing for themselves*, and finding their first impressions delusive. And when there is mismanagement (as is frequently the case, especially by inexperienced teachers,) a kind suggestion to the Teacher would often be of great service, but complaints to the scholars *must* be injurious.

While infrequent visits by a few individuals, may tend to distract the attention, to embarrass, and thus impede the progress of scholars, frequent recitations in the presence of visitors will have the opposite effect. It awakens the enthusiasm of the scholars to know that their progress is regarded with interest by their parents. Surely as much pains should be taken, and as much time devoted, to ascertain the educational advantages and advancement of the youth, as to visit the pastures and note the welfare of the calves and colts!

But if parents cannot be induced to visit and personally inspect the schools, we most earnestly exhort them to increase their efforts to promote the regularity and promptitude of the attendance of their children. A partial attendance is of comparatively little value to any scholar. Frequent interruptions tend to destroy the interest of the pupil in his studies and are almost fatal to proficiency. It is difficult to decide whether our schools suffer most from the numerous cases of *absence* or the almost *innumerable* instances of *tardiness* of scholars. Both are exceedingly pernicious, and are almost disgraceful to the community. If there are



families so poor that they cannot afford to their younger members the advantages of our common schools, the town should extend them sufficient aid to enable the children to go to school *before ten* and oftener than *every alternate day*.

If the cases of irregular attendance were chiefly confined to certain Districts, we should have less cause to wonder, in view of the places in which some of the schools are "kept." For, while in some Districts admirable School Houses have been provided,—in several, the mimic sheep-pens in which the scholars are confined, should be superseded by better buildings, and more comfortable seats take the places of the misshapen, angular boards, upon which the children turn and twist during the period of their imprisonment, "seeking rest but finding none."

As the amount of schooling in most parts of the town is small, (in only one District a half of the year,) such provision as is possible should be made to promote the efficacy of the schools while in operation; we recommend that a *Globe* be provided for each District in the Town.

It is often remarked that a week near the close of the Term, is of far more value to the scholar, than one near the beginning of the session.—Two reasons may be given for this: One is, that many scholars forget in the long vacations, much of what was learned in the brief Term of School. But if evenings and other spare hours are diligently improved, instead of retrograding, the student may progress, during vacation. Another reason why the last part of the school is of comparatively greater value than the first part, is that the Teacher and scholars are better acquainted.—While strangers to each other, as a general rule, neither will discipline be maintained nor instruction be imparted so successfully as when the Teacher knows the acquirements, habits, disposition and cast of mind, of the scholars, and the scholars are familiar with the mode of instruction pursued by the Teacher.

The more the longer the connection between a *good* Teacher and School continues, the better for both. We are glad that this obvious truth was heeded by the Prudential Committee in

#### DISTRICT NO. 1.

A Teacher possessing an aptitude to teach, and skill in preserving order, in a degree rarely combined, was employed throughout the year.—The school was, in every sense of the word, *a success*.

#### DISTRICT NO. 2.

The teacher of the Summer term, though young and inexperienced, possesses many of the qualities requisite for a thorough Teacher. It is believed that she gave entire satisfaction.

The Winter term was under the charge of an energetic Teacher, and good progress was made in all branches of study which were pursued.

The scholars in this District, excel all others in the town, in the *regularity* of their attendance at school.

#### DISTRICT NO. 3.

The School in Summer was taught by Miss L. M. Fisher. Miss Fisher has taught several schools previously in town with eminent success, and has established the highest reputation as a teacher. Much as they had reason to expect, it was more than realized in the success which attended the school. Miss Fisher with great mildness establishes the most efficient regulations. She has the ability of impressing her own ardor and

enthusiasm into her pupils. School under her instruction becomes a most delightful place, and a good education an object of the liveliest interest.

Winter term by Mr. Charles McDaniel. The remarks made above are in the main applicable here. Both of these teachers have ability for doing good service in the school-room, and I earnestly recommend that these teachers be retained as long as possible.

#### DISTRICT NO. 4.

Summer Term, Miss Martha J. Eaton, teacher. This was the teacher's first term, yet she succeeded admirably in awakening an interest in her pupils. The order was good, and the progress and general appearance indicated that the teacher had executed her duties with ability and industry.

Teacher of Winter term Miss Carrie E. Harrington. This was her first effort at teaching, yet the good order, improvement and appearance of the school, would have done credit to an older and more experienced teacher. Miss Harrington was a thorough scholar and possessed a happy faculty of presenting to her scholars all subjects connected with a common school education, in a clear, interesting and efficient manner.

#### DISTRICT NO. 5.

No school in Summer. In the Winter, the few scholars of the District were under the instruction of Mr. David B. Frye. The appearance of this school was satisfactory. The scholars exhibited a good understanding and ready application of principles, especially in Reading and Arithmetic.

#### DISTRICT NO. 6.

The appearance of the school was very satisfactory, both as regards instruction and discipline. We believe that Miss Sargent is an efficient and useful teacher.

#### DISTRICT NO. 7.

Miss Stone labored under the disadvantage of teaching her first term "in her own district;" yet the scholars, quiet and well-disposed, made fair progress. Application and experience, with rather more *energy*, will probably enable Miss Stone to succeed as a teacher. A less number of cases of tardiness occurred in this school, than in any other in town.

#### DISTRICT NO. 10,

In the Winter Term, Mr. Quimby gave satisfaction alike to the scholars and their parents. The school made very good progress under his instruction. He is evidently a good teacher.

From the foregoing account it will be seen that the schools during the past year have been generally prosperous. And, as we believe the *present* will compare favorably with the *past*, so we trust the *future* will be an improvement on the present.

For such particulars as are not contained in the preceding Report, you are referred to the accompanying table. All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. W. OSBORNE, } Committee.  
H. L. BURPEE, }